

We claim:

1. A method for providing a user interface on a cellularly communicative device, comprising the steps of:

concurrently providing on a first display screen, a first menu level providing one or more functional groupings and a second menu level providing one or more choices within at least one of the functional groupings;

permitting a user to advance a cursor freely across the first menu level and the second menu level to select a desired choice within the one or more choices; and

providing a dynamic key assignment for at least one key included in a device keypad on a second display screen in response to the selection of the desired choice, wherein the dynamic key assignment is a function of the desired choice.

2. The method of claim 1, further comprising providing a system background display screen.

3. The method of claim 2, wherein the background display screen is selectable by the user.

4. The method of claim 1, wherein the one or more functional groupings include a functional grouping selected from the group consisting of call messaging, contacts list, obtaining device services, recent calls, and settings and tools.

5. The method of claim 1, wherein the step of providing a first menu level further comprises displaying one or more icons visually evocative of the one or more functional groupings.

6. The method of claim 1, wherein the step of providing a second menu level further comprises displaying the one or more choices arranged in a prescribed order.
7. The method of claim 6, wherein the prescribed order is a function of a previous user selection of the one or more choices.
8. The method of claim 7, wherein the prescribed order is a function of a frequency of a previous user selection of the one or more choices.
9. The method of claim 1, wherein the first menu level includes a call messaging functional grouping and wherein the second menu level includes one or more choices selected from the group consisting of creating a message, voicemail, inbox, outbox, draft messages, e-mail messages and instant messages.
10. The method of claim 1, wherein the first menu level includes a device services functional grouping and wherein the second menu level includes a for-pay service choice.
11. The method of claim 1, wherein the first menu level includes a device services functional grouping and wherein the second menu level includes one or more choices selected from the group consisting of receiving music, receiving games, receiving pictures, receiving movies, receiving news, and receiving information.

12. The method of claim 1, wherein the first menu level includes a contacts functional grouping and wherein the second menu level includes one or more choices selected from the group consisting of new contacts, contacts list, groups, and speed dial.

13. The method of claim 1, wherein the first menu level includes a recent calls functional grouping and wherein the second menu level includes one or more choices selected from the group consisting of all calls, missed calls, received calls, and numbers called.

14. The method of claim 1, wherein the first menu level includes a settings and tools functional grouping and wherein the second menu level includes one or more choices selected from the group consisting of device tools, device modes, device settings, call settings, system settings, accessories, time settings, and date settings.

15. The method of claim 1, wherein the step of providing at least a second display screen further comprises providing a plurality of display screens.

16. The method of claim 1, wherein the step of providing at least a second display screen further comprises displaying a plurality of dynamic key assignments.

17. A user interface for a cellularly communicative electronic device having a system processor, a display screen, and a keypad including a plurality of keys, comprising:

a first display screen including a first menu level providing one or more functional groupings and a concurrently displayed second menu level providing one or more choices within at least one of the functional groupings;

a cursor positionable about the display;

an interface manager executing in the system processor, the interface manager configured to permit movement of the cursor across the first menu level and the second menu level to allow the user to select a desired choice within the one or more choices;

at least a second display screen provided in response to the selection of the desired choice, the second display screen displaying a dynamic key assignment for at least one of the plurality of keys, wherein the dynamic key assignment is a function of the desired choice.

18. The user interface of claim 17, further comprising a system background display screen.

19. The user interface of claim 17, wherein the background display screen is selectable by the user.

20. The user interface of claim 17, wherein the one or more functional groupings comprise a functional grouping selected from the group consisting of call messaging, contact list, obtaining device services, recent calls, and settings and tools.

21. The user interface of claim 17, wherein the first menu level includes one or more icons visually evocative of the one or more functional groupings.

22. The user interface of claim 17, wherein the second menu level includes one or more choices arranged in a prescribed order.

23. The user interface of claim 22, wherein the prescribed order is a function of a previous user selection of the one or more choices.

24. The user interface of claim 23, wherein the prescribed order is a function of a frequency of a previous user selection of the one or more choices.

25. The user interface of claim 17, wherein the first menu level includes a call messaging functional grouping and wherein the second menu level includes one or more choices selected from the group consisting of creating a message, voicemail, inbox, outbox, draft messages, e-mail messages and instant messages.

26. The user interface of claim 17, wherein the first menu level includes a device services functional grouping and wherein the second menu level includes a for-pay service choice.

27. The user interface of claim 17, wherein the first menu level includes a device services functional grouping and wherein the second menu level includes one or more choices selected from the group consisting of receiving music, receiving games, receiving pictures, receiving movies, receiving news, and receiving information.

28. The user interface of claim 17, wherein the first menu level includes a contacts functional grouping and wherein the second menu level includes one or more choices selected from the group consisting of new contacts, contacts list, groups, and speed dial.

29. The user interface of claim 17, wherein the first menu level includes a recent calls functional grouping and wherein the second menu level includes one or more choices selected from the group consisting of all calls, missed calls, received calls, and numbers called.

30. The user interface of claim 17, wherein the first menu level includes a settings and tools functional grouping and wherein the second menu level includes one or more choices selected from the group consisting of device tools, device modes, device settings, call settings, system settings, accessories, time settings, and date settings.

31. A cellularly communicative electronic device having a display screen and a keypad including a plurality of keys, comprising:

- a user interface displayable on the display screen to a user;
- a processor programmed to implement a first process thread, the first thread presenting to the user over the user interface a first display screen including a concurrently displayed first menu level providing one or more functional groupings and a second menu level providing one or more choices within at least one of the functional groupings, the processor further programmed to implement a second process thread, the second thread permitting a user to freely advance a cursor across the first menu level and the second menu level to select a desired choice within the one or more choices, and the processor further programmed to implement a third

process thread in response to the selection of the desired choice, the third thread presenting to the user over the user interface a second display screen including a dynamic key assignment for at least one of the plurality of keys, wherein the dynamic key assignment is a function of the desired choice.

32. The device of claim 31, wherein the processor is further programmed to implement a fourth process thread, the fourth thread presenting to the user over the user interface a system background display screen.

33. The device of claim 32, wherein the background display screen is selectable by the user.

34. The device of claim 31, wherein the one or more functional groupings include a grouping selected from the group consisting of call messaging, contact list, obtaining device services, recent calls, and settings and tools.

35. The device of claim 31, wherein the first menu level includes one or more icons visually evocative of the one or more functional groupings.

36. The device of claim 31, wherein the second menu level includes one or more choices arranged in a prescribed order.

37. The device of claim 36, wherein the prescribed order is a function of a previous user selection of the one or more choices.

38. The device of claim 37, wherein the prescribed order is a function of a frequency of a previous user selection of the one or more choices.

39. The device of claim 31, wherein the first menu level includes a call messaging functional grouping and wherein the second menu level includes one or more choices selected from the group consisting of creating a message, accessing voicemail, inbox, outbox, draft messages, e-mail messages and instant messages.

40. The device of claim 31, wherein the first menu level includes a device services functional grouping and wherein the second menu level includes a for-pay service choice.

41. The device of claim 31, wherein the first menu level includes a device services functional grouping and wherein the second menu level includes one or more choices selected from the group consisting of receiving music, receiving games, receiving pictures, receiving movies, receiving news, and receiving information.

42. The device of claim 31, wherein the first menu level includes a contacts functional grouping and wherein the second menu level includes one or more choices selected from the group consisting of new contacts, contacts list, groups, and speed dial.

43. The device of claim 31, wherein the first menu level includes a recent calls functional grouping and wherein the second menu level includes one or more choices selected from the group consisting of all calls, missed calls, received calls, and numbers called.

44. The device of claim 31, wherein the first menu level includes a settings and tools functional grouping and wherein the second menu level includes one or more choices selected from the group consisting of device tools, device modes, device settings, call settings, system settings, accessories, time settings and date settings.

45. A cellularly communicative electronic device having a display screen, a keypad including a plurality of keys, and a system processor, comprising:

    a user interface displayable to a user on the display screen;

    means for concurrently providing on a first display screen, a first menu level providing one or more functional groupings and a second menu level providing one or more choices within at least one of the functional groupings;

    means for permitting the user to advance a cursor freely across the first menu level and the second menu level to select a desired choice within the one or more choices; and

    means for providing a dynamic key assignment for at least one key included in a device keypad in response to the selection of the desired choice, wherein the dynamic key assignment is a function of the desired choice.